

REMARKS

Because no new matter has been added, Applicants respectfully submit that the above-referenced continuation application is entitled to the original filing date of August 17, 1999.

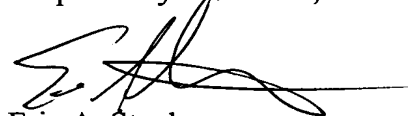
CONCLUSION

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO:

EV 304 738 599 US

Respectfully submitted,



Eric A. Stephenson
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 38,321